



ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m., February 25, 2004

1255 Imperial Avenue, 4th Floor

Conference Room 436

San Diego, CA 92101

Members Present:

Bob Barrios
Mike Chee
Arthur Ecker
Dan Elkerton
Richard Gersberg
David Gomez
Ruth Heifetz
Rich Leap
Carolyn Powers
Jerry Spahn
Bob Shuster
Malcom Vinji

Members Absent:

Bob Crouch (excused)
Ed Heidig (excused)
Anthony Manoguerra (excused)

Others Present:

Gary Erbeck, DEH
Mike Dorsey, DEH
Jack Miller, DEH
Mark McPherson, DEH
Liz Quaranta, DEH
Julie Ellery
Fran Sjoberg, DEH
Kevin Heaton, DEH

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Bob Shuster called the meeting to order at 8:02 a.m.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Joy Williams, Community Assistance/Research Director with the Environmental Health Coalition discussed the public's right to know about chemical hazards in our communities, and requested restoration of the hazardous materials quantity information for public access on the DEH website.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

A motion was carried and seconded to approve the January 21, 2004 Minutes

IV. DEPARTMENTAL REPORT

Gary Erbeck

Policy Issues

No proposed County budget

Initiatives

Cost Containment Groups - Chiefs are meeting with stakeholders

Fiscal

Small Water System Program – Staff's workload has been dramatically affected by the addition of twenty State regulations. In addition, a \$48,000 grant to subsidize the program is in jeopardy. Mark McPherson, Chief of Land and Water Quality Division, is recommending an increase in fees. Increasing fees over a three-year period would permit allocation of 1.5 staff years and the County continuing a program that has been successfully performed for over 30 years.

County Update

California Retail Food Code - Liz Quaranta, Chief of Food and Housing, is working in partnership with representatives from federal, state, local regulators and the retail food industry to protect and improve public health. Representatives from each of these groups have come together in a forum known as the California Retail Food Safety Coalition (CRFSC), which drafted a new food law for California known as the California Retail Food Code (Cal Code).

Recent and Upcoming Board Letters

- Ocean Water Monitoring – Funded by the State General Fund.
- Backflow Certification
- Solid Waste Local Enforcement Grant
- Radiological Board Letter – Bob Shuster ask about status of letter.

V. PROGRAM UPDATES

- Mike Dorsey, Chief of Hazardous Material Division discussed program updates.
- Liz Quaranta, Chief of Food and Housing Division discussed program updates.

VI. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

Next Meeting:
Wednesday, March 24, 2004
8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.
1255 Imperial Avenue, 4th Floor - Conference Room 436,
San Diego, CA